74. Means of communication in the Muvattupuzha taluk.

Mr. Utuppu Chacko (Member, Muvattupuzha taluk) stated that Muvattupuzha, though one of the most important taluks in the matter of population and revenue, was still quite backward, the reason being that the Government did not devote their attention to that taluk in educational matters and in matters relating to means of communication to the extent that it deserved. There were *pakuthies* in the taluk which had no public roads. The road which was being constructed by the side of Ramamangalam *pakuthi* had not yet been made cartable. The Member observed that it took longer time and entailed greater expense for one to go from Muvattupuzha to Trivandrum than to Madras. The Member urged that the following works be taken up without delay :—

(1) The Muvattupuzha-Anchalpetti road might be completed without delay, only a small portion of it remaining unfinished now.

(2) The Karakunnam-Neduvakkad road leading from Kakkatasseri landing was a very important road and the Member urged that it be made cartable.

(3) Maratti-Mannattur road was a ryots' road. It should be taken over for departmental maintenance.

(4) Pampakkuta-Puttankurisu road which was also a ryots'' road should be taken over by the Department and made cartable.

(5) A bridge should be constructed at the market landing in Piravam.

(6) In conclusion, the Member protested against the idea of constructing a railway line through the western taluks, and suggested that the line might be opened through Muvattupuzha.

President's reply.—Your remarks regarding the passing of the railway line to Alwaye *via* Muvattupuzha are noted.

Regarding the bridge at the Piravam market landing, provision has been made for a *junghar* in the estimate for constructing the road from Piravam to Peppatippara. It is considered that a *junghar* would be enough for the present. When the traffic sufficiently develops, the question of constructing a bridge will be looked into.

Then you referred to the Pampakkuta-Puttankurisu road connecting Puttankurisu with the southern part of Muvattupuzha. The portion between Ramamangalam and Kizhemuri involves acquisition of private lands. This will be investigated and an estimate called for. In regard to the Maratti-Mannattur road also, the first section of 1½ miles improved by the people will be maintained at an increased grant as an unmetalled road. Estimates for opening the central portion and widening the northern portion are under preparation. Regarding the village road from Kakkatasseri to Neduvakkad, it is now partly cartable. For making the whole length cartable an estimate is being prepared, and Government will try to provide funds next year. As regards the trace from Muvattupuzha to Anchalpetti, it is more or less cartable for the first seven miles. Portions of the 8th and the 9th mile are also cartable. From the 5th to the 9th mile, some culverts have to be constructed. An estimate is being prepared for this purpose, and the road will be made cartable as early as possible.

The Assembly adjourned at 5 P. M.

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